

APPENDIX

I. WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2 ed.:

1. (CCC 1407) The Eucharist is the Heart of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his church and all its members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the grace of salvation on his body which is the Church.
2. (CCC 1409) The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ's Passover, that is, of the work of salvation accomplished by the life, death and resurrection of Christ; a work made present by liturgical action.
3. (CCC 1410) It is Christ himself, the eternal high priest of the New Covenant who, acting through the ministry of the [validly ordained] priests, offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. And it is the same Christ, really present under the species of bread and wine, who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice.
4. (CCC 1412) The essential signs of the Eucharistic sacrament are wheat bread and grape wine, on which the blessing of the Holy Spirit is invoked and the priest pronounces the words of consecration spoken by Jesus during the Last Supper: "This is my body which will be given up for you.... This is the cup of my blood...."
5. (CCC 1413) By the consecration the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about. Under the consecrated species of bread and wine Christ himself, living and glorious, is present in a true, real, and substantial manner: his Body and his Blood, with his soul and divinity (cf. Council of Trent: DS 1640; 1651).

II. SELECTED PASSAGES FROM SACRED SCRIPTURE RELATED TO THE EUCHARIST

- a. Catechism of the Catholic Church : 1. (CCC 1338) The three synoptic gospels and St. Paul have handed on to us the account of the Eucharist; John, for his part, reports the words of Jesus in the synagogue of Capernaum that prepare for the institution of the Eucharist: Christ calls himself the bread of life, come down from heaven.
2. (CCC 1406) Jesus said: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever;... he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and... abides in me, and I in him" (John 6: 51, 54, 56).
3. (CCC 1339) Jesus chose the time of Passover to fulfill what he had announced at Capernaum: giving his disciples his Body and his Blood: "Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for me that we may eat it...." They went... and prepared the Passover. And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you that I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God"...

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And likewise the cup after supper, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in my blood.” (Lk 22:7-20; cf. Mt 26:17-29; Mk 14:12-25; 1Cor 11:23-26.)

4. (CCC 1340) By celebrating the Last Supper with his apostles in the course of the Passover meal, Jesus gave the Jewish Passover its definitive meaning. Jesus’ passing over to his father by his death and Resurrection, the new Passover, is anticipated in the Supper and celebrated in the Eucharist, which fulfills the Jewish Passover and anticipates the final Passover of the Church in the glory of the kingdom.

b. Selected Scripture Passages: 1. St. Paul’s Eucharistic Account. “For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.” (1 Cor. 11:23-26.)

2. Bread of Life Discourse: Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. *Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness, and they died.* (emphasis added) This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man might eat of it and not die. I am then living bread which came down from heaven: if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever: and *the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.*” The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Amen, Amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, *and I will lift him up at the last day.* For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.... *This is the bread which comes down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.*” Many of his disciples, when they heard it, said, “This is a hard saying, who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at it, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? *Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending where he was before?*” (John 6:48-64)

3. Jesus and the New Temple: At that time, Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath: his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck ears of grain and to eat. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, “Look, your disciples are doing what it is not lawful to on the Sabbath.” He said to them, “*Have you not read what David did, when he was hungry and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him to eat nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the Temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the Temple is here.*” (Matt 12:1-8)